

I strongly urged the FCC to maintain the laws which prohibit the same company from owning both a newspaper and a TV station in the same geographic area, and laws that limit the percent of the national audience that a single cable company can reach. One of the fundamental underpinnings of a functional democracy is that people have visibility into a wide variety of viewpoints. If the same company owns a large percentage of the media in a given region, readers and viewers will have fewer sources of information available to them. As all available channels are bought up by only a few companies, it will be harder and harder for independent viewpoints to remain viable. In addition, increased corporate ownership of media outlets can lead to biased reporting in favor of the corporation's other interests. Freedom of speech requires access to airwaves and print media. Please uphold these important laws.